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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/523,828

02/08/2005

Grant Berent Jacobsen

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22852 7590 06/23/2006

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER  
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EXAMINER

BROWN, JENNINE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1755

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/523,828	JACOBSEN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jennine M. Brown	1755	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/13/2006</u>   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 3/13/2006 was considered by the examiner.

***Claim Objections***

Applicant's amendment obviates the previous claim objections, therefore these objections have been withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobsen, et al. (US 5783512 A) in view of Saudemont, et al. (US 6605561 B1).

Jacobsen, et al. disclose a catalyst component comprising the reaction product of an ionic compound having a cation and anion and aluminoxane wherein the elements are

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obtainable by combining in any order. Ionic compounds disclosed have a cation and anion component (col. 5, l. 12-col. 10, l. 45) and aluminoxanes are disclosed as one of the preferred organometal compounds (col. 13, l. 62-63). The cation is disclosed as trihydrocarbyl ammonium compounds (col. 7, l. 62-67) and the anion as tris-(pentafluorophenyl)(4-hydroxyphenyl)borate (col. 7, l. 13-45). Jacobsen, et al. do not specifically teach tetraisobutyldialuminoxane but Saudemont, et al. cures the deficiency of Jacobsen, et al. by disclosing that tetraisobutyldialuminoxane (col. 4, l. 30-31) is a known aluminoxane compound that can be used in catalyst systems with ionic activators. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the catalyst component of Jacobsen, et al. by utilizing tetraisobutyldialuminoxane instead of tri-isobutyl aluminum because both are disclosed for the same utility. A prima facie case of obviousness may be made when chemical compounds have very close structural similarities and similar utilities. "An obviousness rejection based on similarity in chemical structure and function entails the motivation of one skilled in the art to make a claimed compound, in the expectation that compounds similar in structure will have similar properties." In re Payne, 606 F.2d 303, 313, 203 USPQ 245, 254 (CCPA 1979). See In re Papesch, 315 F.2d 381, 137 USPQ 43 (CCPA 1963) (discussed in more detail below) and In re Dillon, 919 F.2d 688, 16 USPQ2d 1897 (Fed. Cir. 1991) (discussed below and in MPEP § 2144) for an extensive review of the case law pertaining to obviousness based on close structural similarity of chemical compounds. See also MPEP § 2144.08, paragraph II.A.4.(c). Furthermore the order of addition of elements in claims 16-18 are

claimed in open language and provide for additional chemical compounds added to the composition and an open order of addition. In general, the transposition of process steps, or the splitting of one step into two, where the processes are substantially identical or equivalent in terms of function, manner and result, was held to not patentably distinguish the processes. Ex Parte Rubin (POBA 1959) 128 USPQ 440, Cohn v. Comr. Pats. (DCDC 1966) 251 F Supp 378, 148 USPQ 486).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art both previously on record and newly cited, fails to teach or suggest applicant's express method for the preparation of a supported transition metal catalyst system comprising the particular order of addition and mixing for each and every element of the system. Each and every element of the prior art catalyst system is added in a different order than that expressly claimed and argued by applicant, therefore applicants would not have been anticipated by the prior art. The specific order of incorporation of elements in the catalyst system are not merely a transposition of process steps, or the splitting of one step into two, therefore the processes are not substantially identical or equivalent in terms of function, manner and result nor would it have been an obvious expectation that the particular order of addition would provide a successful incorporation of each of the elements to provide an active catalyst system. Furthermore, the process for (co-)polymerization of olefin monomers comprising each

and every element comprising said catalyst system would not have also been obvious or anticipated.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

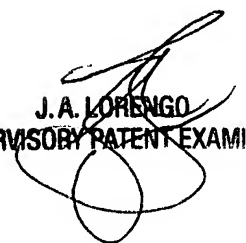
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennine M. Brown whose telephone number is (571) 272-1364. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 9:30 AM - 7:30 PM; Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jmb

  
J.A. LORENZO  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER